HOUSE BILL 636 By Cochran

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 17, Chapter 4 and Title 17, Chapter 5, relative to meetings of the judicial selection commission and the judicial evaluation commission.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

- SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 17-4-109(b), is amended by deleting the subsection in its entirety and substituting instead the following subsection (b):
 - (b) After the initial public meeting, the commission may hold such additional meetings as it deems necessary. All meetings of the judicial selection commission shall be open to the public. Notice of the time, place and purpose of the meetings shall be given in accordance with the provisions of §8-44-103.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 17-4-109(d), is amended by deleting the following language:

After one (1) public hearing, the commission may hold such additional private or public meetings as it deems necessary.

SECTION 3.

- (a) Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 17-4-109(e), is amended by deleting the language "in public or private meeting" and by substituting instead the language "in one (1) or more public meetings".
- (b) Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 17-4-109(e), is further amended by deleting the language "then the commission may meet, select such persons and certify the names of such nominees" and by substituting instead the language "then the commission may, in one (1) or more public meetings, select such persons and certify the names of such nominees".

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 17-4-201, is amended by inserting between the third and fourth sentences of subsection (a) the following language:

The judicial evaluation commission's meetings and deliberations shall be open to the public.

SECTION 5. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to that end the provisions of this act are declared to be severable.

SECTION 6. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005, the public welfare requiring it.

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